


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior version, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a point of sale environment for developing an application on a development system independently of a point of sale system, the application for use with point of sale equipment having a device, the application capable of utilizing the device when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment, the application interfacing with an operating system on the development system, the method comprising the steps of:

 (a) providing an emulation module interfacing directly with the operating system and corresponding to the device;

(b) ensuring that the application will utilize the emulation module when the application is executed on the development system; and

(c) executing the application on the development system independently of the point of sale system, wherein the emulation module and the application emulate the interaction between the application and the device that occurs when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment;

wherein the emulation module and the application both interface directly with the operating system of the development system; and

wherein the device is specialized for the point of sale equipment.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of providing the emulation module further includes the steps of:

(a1) providing an emulation object corresponding to the device.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the application is platform independent and the emulation object is platform independent.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the application is a JAVA application and the emulation object is a JAVA emulation object.

5. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the point of sale equipment includes a driver for controlling the device, the application interfacing with the driver when the application utilizes the device.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the emulation object emulates the driver and the device.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for testing an application on a development system having an operating system, the application for use with point of sale equipment having a device, the application interfacing with the operating system and being capable of utilizing the device when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing an emulation object interfacing directly with the operating system and corresponding to the device;

(b) ensuring that the application will utilize the emulation object when the application is executed on the development system;

(c) executing the application on the development system;

(d) ensuring that the application adequately utilizes the emulation object; and

(e) executing the application on the point of sale equipment;

wherein when the application is executed on the development system, the emulation module and the application emulate the interaction between the application and the device that occurs when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment;

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wherein the emulation module and the application both interface directly with the operating system of the development system; and

wherein the device is specialized for the point of sale equipment.

8. (Amended) A system, including an operating system, for developing an application for use with point of sale equipment having a device, the application interfacing with the operating system and capable of utilizing the device when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment, the system comprising:

an emulation module interfacing directly with the operating system and corresponding to the device; and

means for ensuring that the application will utilize the emulation module when the application is executed on the development system;

wherein when the application is executed on the system, the emulation module and the application emulate the interaction between the application and the device that occurs when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment;

wherein the emulation module and the application both interface directly with the operating system of the development system; and

wherein the device is specialized for the point of sale equipment.

9. (Original) The system of claim 8 wherein the emulation module further includes:
an emulation object corresponding to the device.

10. (Original) The system of claim 9 wherein the application is platform independent and the emulation object is platform independent.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10 wherein the application is a JAVA application and the emulation object is a JAVA emulation object.

12. (Original) The system of claim 9 wherein the point of sale equipment includes a driver for controlling the device, the application interfacing with the driver when the application utilizes the device.

13. (Original) The system of claim 12 wherein the emulation object emulates the driver and the device.

14. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium containing at least one program for testing an application on a development system having an operating system, the application for use with point of sale equipment having a device, the application interfacing with the operating system and being capable of utilizing the device when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment, the program containing instructions for:

providing an emulation module interfacing directly with the operating system and corresponding to the device;

wherein the application is capable of utilizing the emulation module in lieu of the device when the application is executed on the development system and;

US Cont'd wherein when the application is executed on the development system, the emulation module and the application emulate the interaction between the application and the device that occurs when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment;

wherein the emulation module and the application both interface directly with the operating system of the development system; and

wherein the device is specialized for the point of sale equipment.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium containing at least one program for facilitating development of an application on a development system having an operating system, the application for use with point of sale equipment having a device, the application interfacing with the operating system and being capable of utilizing the device when the application is executed on the point of sale equipment, the program containing instructions for:

emulating the interaction between the application and the device using an emulation module interfacing directly with the operating system;

allowing a developer to provide input; and

providing the input to the application in a form expected from the device;

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Concluded wherein the emulation module and the application both interface directly with the
operating system of the development system; and

wherein the device is specialized for the point of sale equipment.
